



ARTS AND FEATURES

BRIAN GREEN MAKES HIS MUSICAL DEBUT

"90210" star drops the Austin from his name for a career in rap.

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THE CLASS SIZE DILEMMA

SA tries to help, but administration makes it tough.

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SLOPPY VICTORIES STILL COUNT

The Colonials take win over Mississippi State to the bank.

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AN INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER



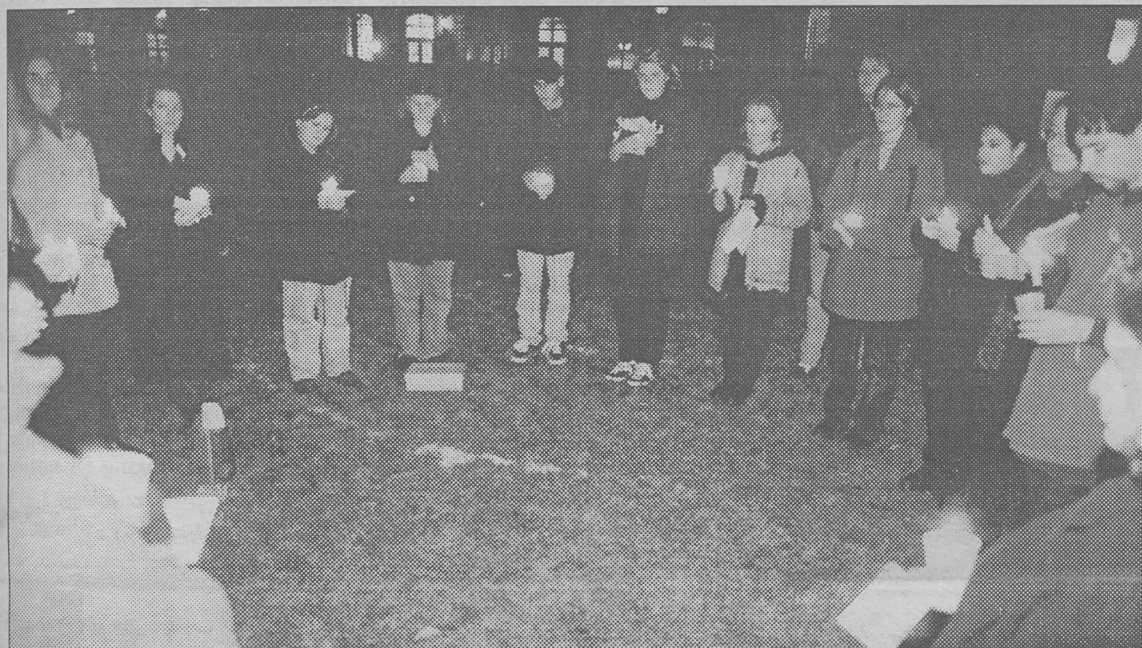
THE GW HATCHET

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Monday, December 9, 1996

Circle of remembrance



Jay Crystal/staff photographer

Students decry the evils of femicide and remember slain women during Friday night's vigil. (See story, p. 3)

Faith in action or on vacation?

University life for some fosters religion while others drop faith

BY MATT KATZ
HATCHET REPORTER

Before Sarah Crites came to GW, she did not go to her Catholic church every Sunday. Her parents were not religious, and she did not have a strong sense of Catholicism imbibed in her. College did something to change that.

After a year and half of college life, Crites, now a junior, said she found religious meaning in her life and was confirmed at the Newman House Catholic Student Center last May.

While some students find their religion in college, and begin to realize that God plays a role in their life, others completely disavow their faith once they reach the level of collegiate independence.

"When I was younger I went to church every Sunday with my mother," said Rich Van Haste, a freshman. "This Christmas I am planning on not going to mass for the first time ever, and that ought to be a war."

Van Haste dislikes his given religion, mainly because of the political beliefs he said he feels the Roman Church tries to push on its members.

Though it was not college that directly played the main role in catalyzing his loss of interest in Catholicism, he said university life did free him of any parental obligation to go to church.

Now that he is a college student, Van Haste said he plans to exercise his freedom when he returns home for Christmas.

Matthew Slatkin, an active member of Hillel and a practicing Jew, said this freedom is the main reason

why members of religious groups, notably Jews, lose their religious foundation.

"You have a lot of freedom in college ... A lot of time people don't have a good enough background in their religion, and they don't feel strongly about their religion and they want to try to see what else is around — they want to have fun."

Slatkin said more people wear keppot head coverings than in the past, signifying a turn toward adherence of rules in the Jewish faith.

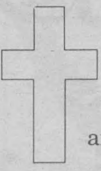
He also said some Christian groups attempt to convert campus Jews. "I don't know exactly what we can do about these groups, but it's definitely a threat because if people don't have a good enough basis to be able to answer to these missionaries, they are going to get sucked into it. And that's a very sad thing," he said.

While some students listen intently to the missionaries outside J Street, others, like newly-confirmed Crites, continue to get more involved in their faith. Many feel more comfortable with the religious programs in college than those at home.

"It (the Newman House) was really just laid back. And my church at my town was not that great. A lot of people in my town really didn't like it but went anyway. There is a nice approach to it here," Crites said. "There is a different setting here than the Catholic Church people are used to."

Aisha Chaudary, the president of the Muslim Student Association, said she became a more religious Muslim once she entered college. The Muslim Student Association helped Chaudary maintain a high level of faith, she explained.

(See STUDENTS, p. 13)



The State of Religion at GW

Grad student split from SA is doubtful

BY BECKY NEILSON
HATCHET STAFF WRITER

Some Student Association graduate senators deflected the notion that GW's graduate students would be better served by their own student government.

Comments by Student Association graduate Sen. Emily Cummins (CSAS) in a recent issue of The GW Hatchet and Senate debates about issues such as class size and use of the money in the SA's Dining Services Development Fund have raised questions about whether graduate students would be better serviced by a separate student government.

Though they acknowledge that graduate students have different concerns and needs than undergraduates, three graduate senators said a split would be detrimental.

"The SA is trying to bridge the gap between two very different cultures," Sen. Randy Papadopoulos (CSAS) said. "But whether it would serve anyone's purpose to have a separate organization is doubtful."

Graduate Sen. J.P. Blackford (SEAS), who also completed his undergraduate studies at GW, said graduate students have a much different perspective on student life than undergraduates.

"Grad students are not as interested in what's going on on-campus or in campus life," Blackford said. "Most of them are here for the degree, and they're on campus

maybe one night a week.

"Some of them travel 15 or 20 minutes to school, as opposed to living in Thurston Hall and taking the five-minute walk to go to an event at the Marvin Center."

Papadopoulos added that graduate students are typically older, with other responsibilities such as full-time jobs, and sometimes families.

The SA constitution defines its membership as all full-time, part-time, graduate, professional and undergraduate students and allots Senate seats to each of the graduate and undergraduate schools, as well as to two graduate students and two undergraduates from the student body at large.

"I feel the SA is designed to be one unified student voice," graduate Sen. Mike Meagher (SBPM) said. "The SA isn't like every other student organization on campus. The SA is the student body. Everyone has the chance to participate."

Blackford said the idea of a separate graduate student association is not new. "Over the years, you hear that rumor of grad students wanting to break off," he said.

But Papadopoulos said that among his constituents, there was a certain sense that they are getting something from the SA.

He cited as an example the recent graduate student barbecue that drew almost 400 people.

(See SA, p. 15)

Constitutional conflicts may mire JEC proposals

BY HEATHER HARE
HATCHET STAFF WRITER

Several GW student leaders predicted that proposed Joint Elections Committee rule changes will not survive because of possible funding loopholes and conflicts with the Student Association constitution.

Although they said some type of change is needed, Program Board Executive Chair Rodney Salinas, SA president Damian McKenna and Marvin Center Governing Board Chair Kate Arnold said the proposed changes are not acceptable in their current form.

McKenna said the proposal to increase the threshold of election without a runoff from 40 percent

to 50 percent "pretty much has to change." It is against the SA constitution to have the president and executive vice president to be elected by anything but 40 percent of the electorate, he said.

Salinas and Arnold agreed that the JEC should not change the run-off rules because it would take too much time to amend the SA constitution to coincide with the new JEC regulations. Arnold said she understands the JEC wants to make the election process more like "a real election, but people need to realize it's a student election."

The changes proposed in funding were praised by the student leaders, but not without concern. McKenna said he

(See MIXED, p. 14)

Triple Bulls Shot

Crazed columnist has his year in review right here

January: It snowed a lot. I wasn't around to see it. I drank a lot of gin and tonics at the pool at my house in the Philippines ... Some guy got pissed off about something I wrote about Pearl Harbor, and then some other people got pissed off, too. I was glad not to be in the States to face the music.

February: February has 28 days. That's all I can say.

March: NCAA March Madness. GW lost to Iowa after being up by

18 points with less than a minute remaining in the second half. I wasn't in the country, but my roommate tells me March was a big blur. I believe him.

April: APRIL FOOL'S DAY! This is all one big joke.

May: Nothing happening here.

June: I rode a crappy Belorussian motorcycle from Hanoi to Saigon. I had bought the thing for \$140 and sold it for \$200 after more than 1,000 miles of

mad riding. Good riddance, shitty motorcycle.



Erik Schelzig

July: My roommate John came to visit me in the Philippines. We made fools of ourselves wherever we went, be it in the girlie bars of Manila or paradise-like beaches of

Boracay. Filipinos everywhere were happy when we left.

August: School started again. And it wouldn't have been complete without an outraged letter from your friend and mine, El Presidenté Stephen Joel (never forget the "Joel") Trachtenberg, and a new bronze Hippo placed right in the middle of campus for all to see (and to be mystified about).

September: GW breaks into the top 50 schools reviewed by U.S. News and World Report. El Presidenté rejoices. GW also breaks into the top two party schools (as determined by the Princeton Review). Trachtenberg groans.

Also, TripBullsShot narrowly loses out to "Horny Sluts That Do it All" for the XXX-rated Site of the Day Award on the World Wide Web.

October: Breaking news: El Presidenté didn't put the "The" in "The GWU." But Professor John Banzhaf III, who happens to have been employed by the GW Law School for the last 25 years, lets TripBullsShot know that it wasn't until SJT appeared on the scene that the "The" became mandatory. According to Banzhaf, if the "The" were to be included in the official name of the school, GW would "wind up somewhere between Texas and Tulane in the alphabetical listings, rather than under Georgetown where we belong." He

also says that "Erik Schelzig doesn't have to make a complete apology to President Trachtenberg." Thanks, John, that's nice to hear.

I was forced to challenge SJT to a grudge-match of racquetball. El Presidenté never responded to my throwing of the gauntlet.

November: An unnamed source tells me that 4.5 million turkeys bite the bullet in preparation for the Thanksgiving rush. That's a lot of leftovers ... GW rewards loyal student fans who stayed in the District for the Thanksgiving holiday by sticking them in the bleachers with a general admission crowd on ESPN. Nobody knew the cheers and everybody was too fat for the close quarters of the wood benches. I left at halftime when GW and Texas Tech were tied. Later, GW went on to lose by nine, and dropped out of the top 25 rankings.

December: This is the last issue of The GW Hatchet in 1996. Don't all cheer at once. December just started, so there really isn't a hell of a lot to say. Blue books are no longer the dumbest thing you are required to buy, but the Honor Code thing is just plain stupid.

I'm going to the Philippines tomorrow to get my twice-annual tropical fix. Good luck on finals, etc., and I'll see you in the spring, well-rested, tan and ready to keep the "The" debate raging for issues to come!

Later.

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Finals stress inspires creative therapy

Students offer ways to chill out, relax

BY SUE SCHULTZ
HATCHET STAFF WRITER

It is that time of year again. For many people, December represents holiday shopping and preparations, but for GW students it means one thing: finals. Instead of holiday cheer, many students are feeling stress.

Students descend on Gelman Library and the Academic Center in order to finish last-minute papers and cram for examinations. Many students become overwhelmed with pages of reading and reviewing their notes.

However, several students have their own ideas about how to relieve stress.

One group of students living in Adams Hall has decided to hold a holiday party. "We are planning a few hours of holiday fun and food to just relax," said Joey Zupkus, one of the party planners.

Freshmen Michelle Schwimer, Kelly Dunphy and Shanna Smiley said they found festive holiday decorations a good break from studying.

Other students find different ways to escape the inevitable. Tara Kelly, a freshman in Mitchell Hall, finds juggling a good way to relax. Among other activities, freshman Eileen Stehman enjoys e-mailing, rearranging furniture, working out

and shopping.

"I prefer group procrastination - going out and finding others to procrastinate with," said Mike Smith, a resident of Adams Hall.

Although procrastination can lead to a lack of preparation, there is another risk. "We frequently see more medical problems during finals," said Dr. Isabel Kuperschmit of Student Health Services.

Kuperschmit added that in order to prevent illness due to stress - especially a flu virus that has been spreading across campus - students should not drink too much coffee or eat too many greasy foods, and also should try to get at least six hours of sleep each night.

GW recognizes this stressful time of year and offers many activities to help relieve stress. Adams Hall resident assistant Swati Doshi organized a group yoga session in order to teach students methods of relaxation.

GW President Stephen Joel Trachtenberg and several other administrators are hosting the "Hungry Hippo" midnight breakfast on Dec. 9.

"Sometimes study breaks help you to relax and focus," Kelly said. "Even just 10 minutes away from the books can help you get more work done."



JACK NICHOLSON GLENN CLOSE ANNETTE BENING PIERCE BROSNAN DANNY DEVITO

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FRYDAY DECEMBER 13

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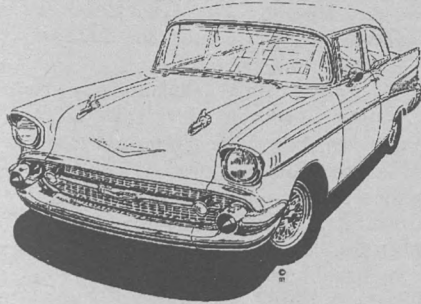
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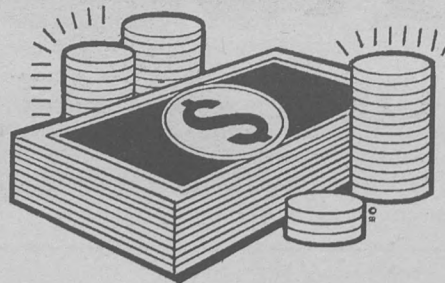
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THE GW HATCHET

An Independent Student Newspaper

Count them in

Graduate students have always taken a back seat to undergraduates when it comes to campus visibility. This is understandable, but it's too bad some graduate students feel this means their needs aren't being met.

Some graduate students say they don't get a fair amount of student group office space or funding for their activities. One way to change that would be to have graduate students form their own student government. But graduate senators in the Student Association say they don't think such a splinter government would work or last long. They're right.

As things stand now, it's hard enough to keep a full graduate contingent on the SA Senate. This is because sitting on the Senate requires a big time commitment, something many graduate students just don't have.

Many of these students have full-time jobs in addition to their course loads. While undergraduates are in student group meetings or cheering at basketball games, many grad students are in class — their courses often run two or three hours in the evenings. Some have families they need to get home to after class as well.

It's true that graduate students may not be getting as much out of their student fee as undergraduates get. But graduate students already went through the undergraduate experience, either here or at another university. For many of them, student groups and campus social life just isn't a priority.

It is a priority, however, to do something if graduate students feel their voice isn't being heard. Graduate enrollment was 350 students under the projected amount this year, and it's important to make the GW experience as rewarding as possible if we don't want it to drop further.

These students have ideas about how to make GW a better place for them. Some graduate students, for instance, would like a place on campus set aside as a sort of graduate student union. Perhaps if ideas such as these were given more weight, graduate students would feel more included in life at GW.

Save UDC

The University of the District of Columbia is about to fall victim to funding cuts once again, even though there are probably a million better places to cut fat from the city's budget.

UDC is the most affordable place the city's young people can go to get an education. Already, the law school has been shut down, and classes started six weeks late this year because of money shortfalls. UDC's administration estimates that it won't even have enough money in the budget to finish the academic year.

How could the city let this happen to such an important institution? We find it hard to believe there aren't better things to cut. Mayor Marion Barry — when he is in the District — is still awarding overly expensive contracts to his friends, and the city's bloated bureaucracy just seems to keep on growing.

Meanwhile, the District's high school students will have to plan on paying more money to go to Northern Virginia Community College or Virginia Tech or Maryland, schools that are already overcrowded. Many of them won't be able to afford these schools anyway.

As we've said time and time again, there are a lot of better ways to fix the city's money problems than taking important services away from its residents. A commuter tax pops immediately to mind — almost every other major city has one, and it's only fair that people who use District roads and services all day should have to chip in on the costs.

Most of all, the city government needs to start taking this problem seriously. Barry shouldn't be flitting off to South Korea and China to promote tourism when his city's college is about to close and his police department's cars don't have tires. The city is in a crisis situation, and its leaders need to be vigilant about dealing with it.

The GW HATCHET

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Believe it or not, the hunt for a graduation speaker has begun

As you read this, GW administrators are pacing in Rice Hall. The days are counting until May 18, 1997 — Commencement for hundreds of GW graduates. Believe it or not, now is the time to start thinking about graduation speakers.

Like at any school, image is a priority at GW and the selection of an adequate graduation speaker is significantly important. Commencement is a high-visibility operation, and massive downpours aside, it is a time for the University to take center stage. In the extreme, the selection of the right or wrong speaker can make or break a school's credibility for a while. Otherwise, the speaker simply adds to or subtracts from the event.

As it now stands, most of the preliminary work has already been completed in the search for May's speaker. The Board of Trustees made its recommendations at its Oct. 25 meeting, and invitations are now being sent out. Face it: In today's demanding academic world, you have to be on the ball if you want to bring in the best.

So no one can accuse the University of not paying attention to these things. Actually, the selection process started the day after last year's Commencement. The original list is culled from recommendations from students, staff, faculty, alumni and almost anyone else who is interested. The suggestions are then narrowed down, evaluated and approved by the Faculty Senate, President Stephen Joel Trachtenberg, the Vice President of Academic Affairs and the GW Board

of Trustees, among others.

The criteria used for selection encompass the wide range of interests brought together in an institution of higher education. "The most important criteria is that someone be distinguished in his or her field," says University Marshal Jill Kasle, who helps head the selection process. "By 'distinguished' we generally mean a long record of accomplishment."

Joanna Markell

Using a series of broad definitions to guide the selection criteria, the University also looks for something else distinguished about a person beside career achievement, such as community or public service work. In addition, they like speakers to have some connection to GW, although it is not mandatory.

But what comes out of all of the planning and development is another issue. This year, the University is faced with the question of continuing the practice of allowing several honorary degree recipients to speak for a short amount of time (last year, the seven award winners were given five minutes each) or having one speaker and several honorary degree recipients. The contrast is fairly significant, and arguments in support of both sides are strong. Kasle says no decision has been made yet either way.

It should be explained, however,

that there is no standard or set of rules on how to conduct a Commencement. Tradition usually guides most schools, but some room always exists for change. Now may be as good a time as ever to re-evaluate Commencement speaker policy. The amount of democratic input that goes into the selection process is impressive. Everyone at GW has the potential to be heard.

I am a senior this year, and most likely graduating this time around. Personally, I would not be offended if someone who wasn't famous or beautiful or a genius spoke at Commencement. Really, my only request is that we give someone the time to speak who would take the honor seriously. To clarify, I suggest someone who cares deeply about education, who would actually enjoy speaking to the masses gathered at the Ellipse. Essentially, someone who understands the predicament of a student entering the real world in 1997.

Whatever happens, remember that your opinion counts. There's still time to let those in charge know what you think. The best place to start is with Kasle, who oversees much of the selection process. Recommendations can be sent to her attention at any time.

Of course, no one will know what the end result of this will be until May. The decision is announced two weeks before Commencement by President Trachtenberg. It's a GW tradition.

—Joanna Markell is a senior majoring in journalism

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SEAS needs a home

As a student of the School of Engineering and Applied Science for the past three years, I have always assumed that the articles published in The GW Hatchet were written with the best intentions of being honest and accurate. However, when I read the article about the Davis-Hodgkins house ("Engineers to switch houses," Dec. 5, p. 13), I felt I needed to set the record straight.

My name is Sasha, not Shannon, and I do not recall making the statement attributed to me in the article. The Davis-Hodgkins house is used for much more than professor evaluations, and the article needed to make that clear.

The house was given by President Cloyd Heck Marvin to the engineering students in honor of two outstanding members of the engineering alumni. The home was intended to be used for studying, group meetings, tutoring, the writing of MECHLECIV, the engineering student magazine and for the Engineers' Council.

I felt the Hatchet article did not make it clear enough how much goes on in the house each day, and how important these activities are to students. Some individuals may feel that the home is never used, since there seems to be a lack of student bodies in the building during the day. I assure you that although the home may seem abandoned during the daylight

hours, the home is filled with students on many evenings until very late in the night. The engineering school is extremely active. There are currently more than 10 organizations that use the home for meetings and activities, not to mention the daily tutoring done by Tau Beta Pi, the national engineering honor fraternity, and study groups that take place at times until 3 or 4 a.m.

Engineering requires a tremendous amount of studying to master, and the nature of the subject matter is best learned through group studying. There must be a place available to engineering students to gather 24 hours a day most importantly for this reason. President Marvin understood this need, and obviously some members of the current administration agreed this past summer. For example, Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs Linda Salamon offered the engineering students a building at 605 21st Street in writing this past summer in replacement for the current home. However, in her absence this decision was suddenly changed to 609 21st Street.

However, as mentioned in the article, 609 21st Street is uninhabitable, and there is no set deadline for the completion of the renovation or a written promise for the home in the fall when it is completed, not to mention a permanent interim solution. One suggestion I made was that possibly 605 21st

Street could be used, if not already allocated, until the new home is ready — since the home is a vital part of our successful education.

—Sasha Paillet, senior

Taking the reins

I accept Eric Kerensky's appointment as captain of the season ticket-holder "cheering" section ("Note to Smith Center season ticket holders: Please wake up now!" The GW Hatchet, Dec. 5, p. 5). That's the highest rank I've ever held.

Perhaps our group of eight does need retraining. We've been going to Colonials games now for 13 years, and we got out of the habit, I guess, particularly during the 27 season (1988-89). We did cheer a little when John Feinstein threatened to write a piece for Sports Illustrated if they lost them all. Those were the days when all players could hear the "fans" if we spoke in a normal tone. And the GW Hatchet editor cut down the net after the lone victory.

Now that we are winning most of the games, we old folks will just have to try harder (as they say at Harvard, "Fight fiercely.") Rather than be courageous of Eric to challenge professor before grades are in, don't you think?

—Charles Puffenberger, associate professor of journalism

see MORE LETTERS, p. 5

OPINION

Wish you had a car? You'll think twice after reading this

Driving used to be really fun for me. One of the major draws to living at home during the summer was having access to a car and, with it, the freedom to go anywhere I wanted at any time. For that reason, I thought it might be a cool thing to have at school for a semester, too. Cruising around the city, taking road trips up the coast and going out to Virginia for groceries all sounded like really great ideas way back in August.

But having a car in this unforgiving city for a semester was probably the biggest mistake I have ever made. I implore all of you who are thinking of bringing your vehicle back after the break to give it serious thought. My nightmare could be your nightmare....

Let's see, where should I begin? Well, I thought I could get around the whole student parking sticker issue rather easily, and save the \$130 it costs to get a permit to park on the street. I live off-campus, so I figured I could find a place to park somewhere for free.

It took a week of moving my car every two hours (while only receiving one parking ticket) for me to finally find a place behind my girlfriend's apartment building to park for the duration. This building shall remain nameless because, well, I want my car to be safe for another week and a half. But the building has rather lax rules about who parks there, so that worked out fairly well.

Then on my first road trip to Kings Dominion, someone tried to break into my car by jimmying the lock. The lock is so mangled now, the key won't even fit in the keyhole to lock it. I was pretty freaked out, to say the least, but luckily the bandits were unsuccessful.

October was fairly easygoing, as my friends and I took the car up to Atlantic City for a weekend and out to the suburbs to find pumpkins for Halloween. I also took a

trip up to the University of Delaware to visit a friend one weekend in November.

However, one fateful Sunday a week later, my friends and I decided to drive out to Ballston to have brunch at the International House of Pancakes. The lot in front of the restaurant was full, so we circled around the back and parked in what appeared to be a vacant lot.

A sign on the door of IHOP warned about parking in the lot, so I turned right around to move

my car and found it already halfway out of the vacant lot on the back of a tow truck. The con-
vining drivers had obviously

been waiting undercover nearby and pounced on my car the minute we turned the corner. We had to take a cab to the disgusting, shady towing lot 30 minutes away and pay them \$100 for the privilege of having my car back.

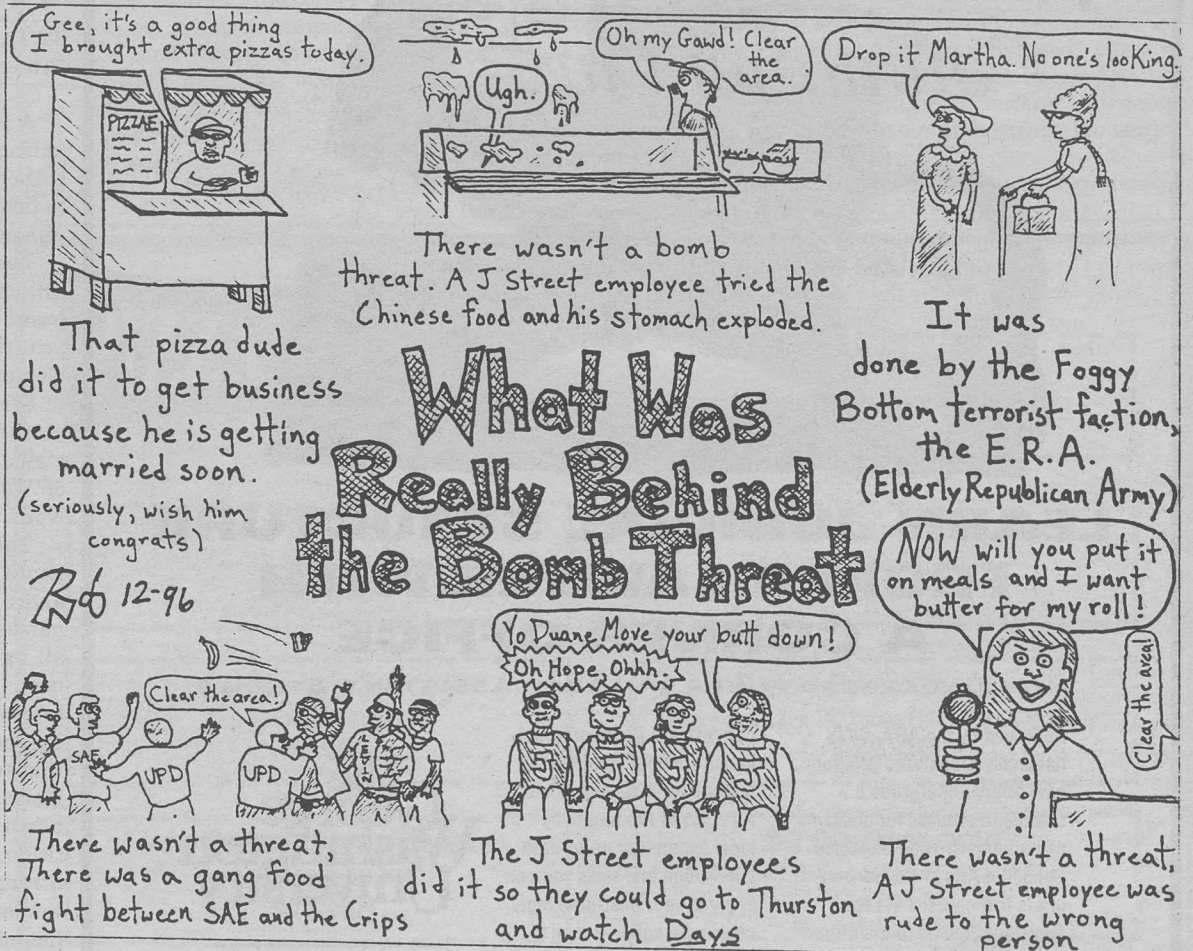
I had decided by this point that the car was going to stay at home next semester - safe in pleasant, little Greensburg, Pa. Then on the way back to school from Thanksgiving break, my brother got into a fender-bender with a Volvo on Route 70, and I got in my car Friday to go to a library downtown only to find the battery completely dead. Now I'm just ready to kill someone....

Don't get me wrong, having a car in the city did have its advantages. I finally learned my way around after three and a half years of living here. And the road trips were definitely a major plus. But in the end, after all of the scratches and dents have been added up and the lost money is counted, has it really been that much more convenient to drive to work from my house on the other side of campus?

Nope. But I guess I will miss having the car to pick up a keg from the liquor store....

—Justin Bergman is features editor of *The GW Hatchet*.

Justin
Bergman



SA tries to fight growing classes, but the University makes it tough

As a result of the front page Nov. 25 Hatchet article "Larger classes may loom for GW," I believe it is appropriate to present the history of the two Student Association bills that deal with the controversy and give students a chance to understand the purpose of these two pieces of legislation. I would like to take this opportunity to clarify just what these bills mean and how they apply to the current discussion over the number of freshmen to be admitted next year.

These two resolutions were first introduced last April by myself as a measure of my concern regarding class sizes here at GW. The purpose of the bills is to ensure that the student discussion sections in freshman courses and graduate seminars have a maximum number of 20 students. With that many students in a class there is more of a chance for all members to contribute to the discussion that is supposed to take place, whether it be in a 50-minute discussion section or a 110-minute seminar.

The SA Senate deliberated on the issue and expressed concern over the possibility that these bills might prevent students from finding enough spaces in classes for their degree requirements. After scrupulously detailed research, Sen. Emily Cummins concluded that there were, in fact, courses in several disciplines that were very large and violated the principles laid out in the two bills. More than 3,000 students were in classes with more than 20 students. The Senate, seeing the detailed research involved, unanimously passed these two bills on Oct. 29. After that it referred the two bills to the Joint Committee on Faculty and Students for consideration and eventual transmission to the University's administration.

What has happened since then should be of concern to every student at this University. Facing a problem with money, the administration announced on Nov. 1 that the University is planning to admit at least 60 additional freshmen next year. They will be added to the already over-full classes that GW provides.

Chance for discussion in freshman sections will drop, simply because there will be 28 students in classes that have 25 now. Teaching assistants will have less time to devote to helping students because their grading loads will climb. Faculty will find themselves increasingly pressured to allow students into classes because students need them to graduate. GW will lower the quality of the education that it provides to its students, pure and simple.

Please note that I am not suggesting that the University spend money irresponsibly. But while it is the job of the University to remain fiscally solvent, its admissions policies must work in a way that does so without damaging the quality of the education provided.

In the meantime, The Hatchet presented the situation as two Student Association factions fighting a turf war. This last point could not be further from the truth, because the Senate had already passed the legislation unanimously. The issue here is one on which all students agree: We want the best education possible.

Where do we go from here? It is the duty of students to defend what they pay for and what they expect from the University: an opportunity to learn. If all of us do not resist the attempts of the University administration to enlarge classes to accommodate more freshmen, our school's name will suffer. The quality of classes at GW will decline. Make no mistake: With larger classes, our hard-won status as the 46th-ranked school in the country can only fall. Our opportunities to learn will suffer while at GW, and our opportunities for employment and further education after graduating will decrease.

These are the facts of the situation. I invite you to come to an SA meeting and hear further discussion of the issues involved.

—Randy Papadopoulos is a doctoral candidate in history and a Student Association graduate senator.

Randy
Papadopoulos

MORE LETTERS

Stopping hunger

A note of congratulations to the GW community for a job well done! During GW's Hunger Awareness Week and the Oxfam Fast for a World Harvest, many meals were signed off and donated as well as contributions made to end hunger and poverty around the world. The Hunger Banquets both on Capitol Hill and here at GW were great successes. Thank you, GW!

Special kudos go to the Hunger Awareness Planning Committee, those who held programs during the week and all those who staffed the sign-up table in the Marvin Center and at Thurston Hall. You worked hard and it showed. The whole crew from GW Dining Services (especially Carlotta

Botvin and Paul Krouse) and Robert Truelove at the University Club, as well as the folks at the Office of Campus Activities and the Neighbors' Project, deserve a particularly loud round of applause for their contributions. None of this would have come off without the great leadership of Laura Wimberly, Seema Patel, Tracy Shanks, Elvira Ramos, Ron Jackson, Rusty Stahl and Peter Konwerski. Thank you all.

Each year Hunger Awareness Week gets bigger and better. Next year, watch out for even more ways in which you can do your part to make this world a more sane and livable place. You do make a difference, GW....

—Rev. Laureen Smith
GW Board of Chaplains

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Vigil remembers slain victims of femicide

BY TAMMY IMHOFF
HATCHET REPORTER

A group of 25 students, dressed in black and wearing white ribbons, gathered on the Quad Friday night to take part in a candlelight vigil to remember victims of femicide.

Femicide is the killing of women based solely on the fact that they are women, according to Erica Bacich, an attendee at the vigil and a member of Womyn's Issues Now. **"People need to be made aware of this (femicide). I think (an event like the vigil) is good to raise awareness."**

The participants held candles and read the names of women of all ages who have been killed, as well explained briefly the circumstances surrounding their deaths. These ranged from women who were killed by their husbands or other loved ones as a result of domestic violence, to infanticide, to cases such as the Hillside Stranglers, a group that killed 10 women from July 1982 to the summer of 1986.

The participants also read poetry and sang songs to protest the lack of attention for the needs of battered women and their calls for help. Bacich began the evening by explaining the significance of hold-

ing the vigil on Dec. 6, and the significance of the white ribbons that attendees were asked to wear.

On Dec. 6, 1989, at the University of Montreal, 14 women were shot to death in a classroom. The shooter, Mark Lepine, shouted "you fucking feminists" while shooting, Bacich said. The male students in the room were unharmed. Canadians wear white ribbons every year on Dec. 6 to remember the victims of this shooting, she added.

Agnieszka Twarog, an attendee at the vigil and also a member of WIN, said afterward that she felt the event was important because "people need to be made aware of this (femicide). I think (an event like the vigil) is good to raise awareness."

This is the second year that WIN has sponsored the vigil. Bacich said response to the non-confrontational vigil last year was positive. She added that one of the goals of the vigil was to make people aware of the many brutalities that femicide encompasses.

She also cited the existence of video games glorifying Jack the Ripper and novels romanticizing his killing of women as reasons to bring more awareness to this issue.

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DSC finds J Street prices relatively fair

Grab 'n' Go is pricier than McDonald's

BY DAVID JONES
HATCHET REPORTER

A recent Student Association Dining Services Commission report found that most items at J Street are fairly priced when compared to local eateries offering similar items.

Prices at the Foggy Bottom Diner, the 1821 Deli, Viva Java, La Cantina De Marta, Georgio's Pasta and Salad, the Passport Cafe and the Colonial Grill all compared favorably with similar items offered at local restaurants.

Jesse Strauss, the director of the Dining Services Commission, said the restaurants used for comparison were chosen based on the similarities between the items on their menus and the items on the J Street menu.

However, the report also found that prices at the Grab 'n' Go and Georgio's Pizza did not compare favorably with the offerings of local restaurants.

For instance, a hamburger at the Grab 'n' Go costs \$2.09, while one at the McDonald's on 19th and K streets costs 69 cents. In addition, a Philly cheesesteak at the Grab 'n' Go costs \$3.29, while a similar item at Roy Roger's across the street costs \$2.19.

Strauss said the prices at the Grab 'n' Go are a particular concern for the DSC.

"We want to see prices lowered at the Grab 'n' Go. It is unfortunate that the station with the shortest lines, which would be the most attractive to cash-paying customers, is also the station with the highest prices," he said.

Paul Krouse, the general manager of GW Dining Services, said while he supported the involvement of the SA in Dining Services concerns, he pointed out that the report did not compare items of the same size. For instance, he said the Grab 'n' Go offers a four-ounce hamburger, while a hamburger at McDonald's is only two ounces.

"They really weren't comparing apples to apples," Krouse said. "The uncorrelation of the portions is the real issue."

However, some students eating at J Street said they were being unfairly overcharged.

Carl Nielsen, a graduate student who eats at the Grab 'n' Go once a week and pays only with cash, said he thought the prices were "a little high" for institution food.

"I don't like paying \$8 for two hamburgers, an order of onion rings and a soda at the Grab 'n' Go, when I could get the same thing for \$5 at McDonald's," he said.

In addition, many students interviewed at J Street said the quality of the food is a more important issue than how much their meal plans pay for.

In particular, several students expressed dismay with the Passport Cafe, the Chinese food eatery at J Street.

"It's worse than microwave Chinese food. Where do they get their rice? How can they mess rice up?" asked James Guzy, a sophomore on an all-points meal plan.

"The Passport Cafe does not even have remotely distinguishable stir-fry," said Peter Burgelis, a freshman on a 10-meals-per-week plan.

Strauss agreed with the students, saying the Passport Cafe should be transformed into something else, such as a baked potato bar, to make better use of the space.

Krouse also agreed with the students' assessment of the Passport Cafe.

"We have heard the students and we are in full agreement. The Passport Cafe is a concept that has outlived itself," Krouse said.

He added that the Dining Service is discussing how to make the necessary changes with the University.

Strauss said a main benefit of the report is its usefulness as a negotiating tool with the GW Dining Service.

"We're going to use this next term if they (Dining Services) want to raise prices as a way to show them what items can be raised and which items should be lowered."

According to Krouse, however, the SA has nothing to worry about when it comes to prices.

"This is the second year that the prices at J Street have not increased. At this point, there are no plans to increase prices for Fall 1997, either."

VP says she will try to relocate engineers

The School of Engineering and Applied Science students who will be forced to move out of the Davis-Hodgkins House at the corner of 22nd and G streets cannot be given a temporary meeting space to replace their former quarters until they present a list of their meetings, according to Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs Sharon Rogers.

"I can't assess their needs until I have a list," Rogers said.

Rogers said no guarantee exists that the stu-

dents will get space in the Marvin Center. She said she will work on getting them offices.

Some students claim the house was given to engineering students and is supposed to be reserved for them. "The particular place has changed. There is no exact historical information on it. It was possibly (founded) by the recognition of former University administrators. There is no endowment (to secure the house)," she said.

-Eric Ladley

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The University Honors Program is now accepting applications for Fall 1997 admission to the program. The deadline for applications is February 7, 1997. Applications are available at the University Honors Program office, 2138 G Street, NW.

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Requirements include high GPA (3.0 minimum required to apply; most successful applicants have higher GPA's), recommendations from GW professors, and a completed application form with essays. Preference is given to students with less than 40 hours of undergraduate credit. For more information, please contact the Honors Program at 994-6816.

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MONIQUE L. HARDING
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

More than 200 members of the GW community came out for "Spin the Globe: We are the Stories We Tell," the annual event that celebrates 14 multicultural organizations on-campus.

Students sang, danced and recited poetry and short stories in the Marvin Center Ballroom Friday night.

The First Ladies Dance Squad opened the event performing to En Vogue's "Free Your Mind" by lip-synching, walking down the runway, modeling and dancing.

Traditional dances that celebrate a good harvest were performed by the Philippine Cultural Society and the Sikh Student Association.

Fashion shows also were performed with dances by the Arab Club, South Asian Society and the Sikh Student Association.

Conditions in Afghanistan were discussed by Maha Yousufvai, who spoke about the violence and abuse women face in her homeland.

Yousufvai said women in Afghanistan cannot leave their homes. If they do they will be beaten in public, and all of this is done "in the name of politics and religion," she said.

The Philippine Cultural Society performed a dance called Bangko, in which a man and woman had to dance on a narrow bench held by another man and woman. If one of the two falls off the bench, their marriage is doomed. However, if they complete the dance without losing balance, the marriage will last forever.

They also performed Tinikling, which is done with six-foot-long smooth narrow wooden sticks that are banged together to a tempo, which gets faster and faster as a man and woman dances in and out of them.

A playful combat called Capoeira, an African-Brazilian modern art dance from the Bantu culture, was performed by Latinos for Progress. Three people danced slowly to music and mock-kicked and hit each other without physical contact.

The Malaysian Students Association had a lead singer who directed the group of 20 students singing in their native tongue. The choir, wearing solid-color robes with gold sashes, clapped to the beat of drums and waved their hands while sitting cross-legged on the floor.

The Arab Club modeled fashions from Palestine, Saudi Arabia

and the outskirts of Syria. The club also performed a wedding ceremony, in which the man's eyes were covered and the woman wore a transparent red veil.

The people celebrating with the couple spread a white sheet in front of the couple and spread red rose petals on it. The couple stood on it as on-lookers threw money on them. Then the celebrants danced around the couple, who exchanged the chains they wore around their necks.

Brown-belt Nipun Chhabra and red-belt Nicholas Vaughn from the John K. Thomas United States Karate Center performed Hap-Ki-Do, a Korean Martial Arts display. The duo broke wooden and cement blocks with their bare hands and feet.

The Urban Art Family performed a rap using improvisation and poetry entitled "I Can Remember," "Crying Pot" and "White People Got No Rhythm."

Akosua Walker, president of the Black Peoples' Union, along with Carmen Strong, Taschina Wilson and Alicia Young, danced to Nina Simone's "Four Women," a song about the hardships of black women with four different complexions.

Shades of the Fine Arts showcased four women performing Popol Vuh, a Native American story about creation.

According to the event program, two event sponsors, Shades of the Fine Arts and the South Asian Student Society, "strive to educate the GW community by increasing cultural awareness."

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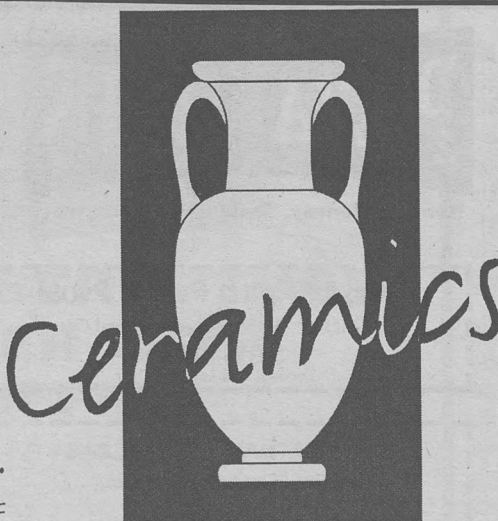
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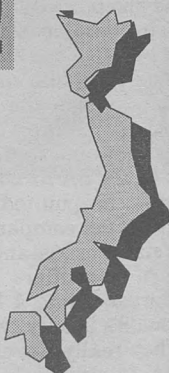
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Any questions: contact Michelle Cibrian @ 530-7929

GW puts on the ritz for Inauguration '97

BY KATHRYN MAESE
HATCHET REPORTER

GW will roll out the red carpet when it adds a bit of buff and blue to its version of the 1997 Presidential Inaugural Ball that will be held in the Marvin Center Jan. 20.

The event is being organized by Jodi Reborchick and Michael Schilinsky from the University's office of special events along with a committee of students and staff.

The event will definitely have an "elegant flair," Reborchick said. Entertainment will be provided by two bands: "Odyssey," which will play cover music, and "King James and the Serfs of Swing," composed of GW students and staff, who will play big band music.

There also will be a buffet-style dinner and a cash bar. Guests can take pictures with a cardboard cut-out of the First Couple and will receive memorabilia commemorat-

ing the inauguration. Medallions imprinted with the names of President Clinton and Vice President Gore also will be given away.

Organizers have received positive feedback from students who have attended in the past and encourage students to take advantage of the unique opportunities available to them in Washington. Members of the GW community, faculty, alumni and those who work in politics are expected to attend the gala event. After a sold-out event four years ago, tickets are expected to go fast.

Students can purchase tickets for the event in Rice Hall room 504. A limited number of discount tickets are available. Student tickets are \$30 and regular tickets are \$45.

"You will get to do a lot of things at GW," Reborchick said, "but only once will you get to attend an Inaugural Ball."

Symposium will explore inaugural intricacies

Next month the nation's capital will be taken by storm with festivities surrounding the Inauguration of President Clinton and Vice President Gore, but before all the parades, fancy dresses and limousines, GW will offer a "behind-the-scenes" look at what goes into planning the District's biggest party.

The symposium, to be held this Thursday from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the Dorothy Betts Marvin Theatre, will feature some of the biggest names from past inaugurations.

Speakers will include Edith Mayo, curator of the First Ladies Gowns Collection at the Smithsonian Institution; Tom Groppe, the director of ceremonies and special events for the Military District of Washington; and Earl Hargrove, one of the designers and builders of Inaugural Parade floats.

Admission is free and open to the public. A champagne and dessert reception will follow.

-Kevin Eckstrom

Dimock exhibit offers visions of Corfu

"Landscapes of Corfu, 1996," a Dimock Gallery exhibit of more than 50 student paintings, will bring the beauty of this Grecian island to GW beginning Thursday.

The exhibit is the result of a four-week trip of GW fine arts students and faculty.

Both rural and urban scenes are captured in oil and watercolor paintings, all wrapped in

Mediterranean light and color.

GW's Summer Fine Arts Program is coordinated with the help of the Art League School in Alexandria and the Municipality of Corfu.

The exhibit will run through Jan. 31 in the lower level of Lisner Auditorium Tuesdays through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

-Lee Rumbarger

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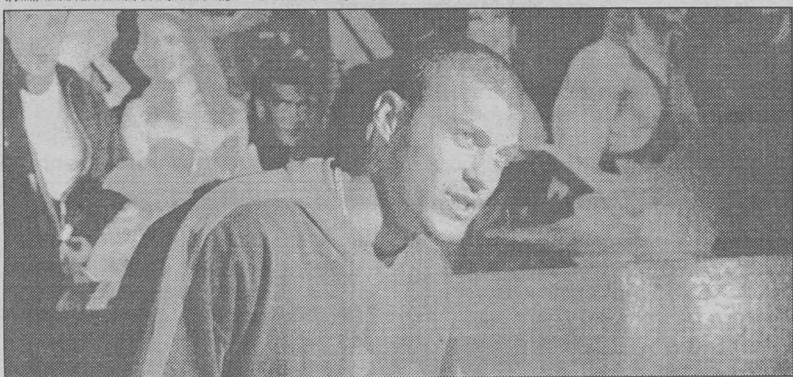
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Claire Duggan/Photo Editor

On *One Stop Carnival*, Brian Green of "Beverly Hills, 90210" is seeking props for his rap and a big, juicy steak.

Brian Green seeks respect for his rap

BY KRISTIAN HOUSE
HATCHET STAFF WRITER

Brian Green's *One Stop Carnival* (Yab Yum/Sony) marks the "Beverly Hills, 90210" star's latest venture into the world of hip-hop.

According to a press release, his music is "a prime example of Green's ability to transcend rap's traditional ethnic boundaries ... its substance is genuine, its impact immediate."

Not to mention that it appeals to readers of *Teen Beat* and *Tutti Frutti*.

Members of the Los Angeles-based group The Pharcyde and some other studio "wizards" give the album some nice beats and background melodies, but it's hard to take Green seriously after listening to his nasally high-pitched voice and weak lyrics.

In the first full-length track of the album, "That's Right," he tells listeners to "Start the barbecue ... We'll be having a ball/Steaks and all." Then he gets down and taunts other MCs to "Step into the realm/and get dealt with the B.G."

On the single, "You Send Me," he reflects on a beautiful hip-hop

queen. Green says he wants to get with her, but is "kind of hesitant/cause (he) wasn't sure if super-masculine/was the way to represent."

Not surprisingly, the press release for the CD is a lot more interesting than the music itself, since it provides some really deep insights into Green.

Green on rapping and starring in a hit TV show: "I'm not about trading in on my '90210' thing just to sell records. My acting and my music are separate creative outlets. The truth is, I want my album to stand on its own and my music to speak for itself."

Green on being white in a black-dominated hip-hop world: "Although I knew being white would make it a little harder for me to get the props and respect all rappers want and need, I'm confident I can do it and still be myself."

In the end, though, it's nice to learn that Green is in the music industry for more than the money. He sincerely acknowledges that "knowing that my album is listened to and appreciated by the people, especially the hip-hop nation, means everything to me."

Jon Spencer has few worries, comparisons on new album

BY JOSEF NOVOTNY
HATCHET STAFF WRITER

The scream that starts off The Jon Spencer Blues Explosion's latest album *Now I Got Worry* (Matador/Capitol) is a piercing, shattering release of gargantuan proportions.

It's almost as if the screamer, presumably Spencer himself, is releasing all the negativity from his system prior to starting an album full of finely-layered grooves, loud guitar and killer drumming. A more straight-forward start to an album would be hard to find.

Now I Got Worry is one of those albums you might not be able to listen to at just any given moment. But when you're in the right mood, it can be quite a remedy to life's stressful or difficult situations.

"Skunk," the first song on the album, showcases Spencer's falsetto Elvis-like voice, backed up by a wild 1960s garage-rock guitar. "Fuck Shit Up" uses loops and samples to create a disjointed collage of shouts

and drum beats. If one could visualize the song, it would make a Jackson Pollack painting seem carefully organized.

"2 Kindsa Love" is the first single from the album, and while it probably won't be a radio hit, it is a catchy and tuneful rock song. Some of the less-grandiose moments on *Now I Got Worry* occur when the group starts to sound more like a Rolling Stones cover band and less like the raving punk hooligans who grew up on B.B. King or Muddy Waters.

The band manages to pull it all together for a knock-out, one-two punch with "Can't Stop" and "Firefly Child." These songs set up the album for a grand finale that would make the Beastie Boys drop their mics and take the first train back to Brooklyn.

It's hard to classify Jon Spencer in any kind of genre because the music is such an odd blend of styles. It might not be the album of the year, but it carries its own weight in the genre of alternative rock. Jon Spencer's strange brew of eccentric creativity is a breath of fresh air.

Tool blasts through brooding barrage at Capitol Ballroom

BY MATT STUMPF
HATCHET STAFF WRITER

Maynard James Keenan is the unlikeliest of rock stars. As he floats about on stage, it's not the outward exhibition of a self-obsessed ego-star, but a search through his own body and soul. Meanwhile his band, Tool, blasts out a dark sonic trek through the imagination.

At the Capitol Ballroom Tuesday night, the band was at its brooding best, as it blasted through an hour and a half of power, inner-violence and musical transcendence. With two large video screens towering over the quartet, the evening began with an image adapted from the cover of the newly-released *Enima* (Zoo Entertainment), the sold-out Ballroom transfixed by an ever-expanding white rectangle.

As Tool erupted onto the stage with "Third Eye," and Keenan came out painted half in blue and half in white, the focus shifted and would unrelentingly remain on the band until the last note echoed through the room.

The duo of "Stinkfist" and "Forty-Six and Two," brought the crowd even closer to throes of musical ecstasy. Tool built each song to a frenzied climax while a steaming crowd erupted below. Keenan continued, disinterested with the movement below, as he focused through himself, exposing his inner self on stage and provoking a deep musical introspection for all of those

around him and all of those who cared to listen to his pleading for change in the depressing world he describes.

With guitarist Adam Jones, new bassist Justin Chancellor and drummer Danny Carey weaving a musical tapestry, Keenan provided the details, making the tapestry a three-dimensional living entity that circled in the air Tuesday night. "I want to feel the change consume me," he sang quietly in "Forty-Six and Two," as if calling for a force far away, yet attainable, "feel the outsider turning in/I want to feel the metamorphosis and cleansing I'm enduring."

In the wildly-popular "Sober," Keenan stepped out to the edge of the stage, not looking down, but up toward something no one could see but him, and let the repeated angst of "Trust me, trust me, trust me," spread out through the hall, just as the bombast of another Tool chorus kicked in on its heels. These are moments when a listener's body just floats in the air, picked up, circling overhead, by sheer power and a great musician's ability to manipulate one's most inner feelings.

On the evening's final song, *Enima*'s title track, Tool blasted through on as hard a riff as you'll ever hear, and Keenan appealed once more to that undefined force that he looks to, "Don't just call me pessimist/Try and read between the lines/I can't imagine why you wouldn't welcome any change, my friend/I want to see it all come down."

WRGW's Top 20 CDs

No.	Artist	Title (Label)
1.	Boys Life	Departures... (Headhunter)
2.	Tricky	Pre-Millennium... (Island)
3.	Luscious Jackson	Fever In... (Grand Royal)
4.	The Cardigans	First Band...(Mercury)
5.	The Roots	Illadelph Life (DGC)
6.	John Parish & PJ H...	Dance Hall At... (Island)
7.	Mazzy Star	Among My Swan (Capitol)
8.	J. S. Blues Explos.	Now I got Worry (Matador)
9.	Bad Brains	Black Dots (Caroline)
10.	Silver Scooter	Cup and String (Crank!)
11.	Smile	Masterlocks +3 (Revelation)
12.	Orbital	In Sides (Internal)
13.	Tool	Anemia (Zoo)
14.	Less Than Jake	Losing Streak (Capitol)
15.	Marilyn Manson	Antichrist... (Nothing)
16.	Lemonheads	Car Button Cloth (TAG)
17.	BT	Ima (Kinetic)
18.	Weezer	Pinkerton (DGC)
19.	Korn	Everything is Peachy (Epic)
20.	Josephine Wiggs E.	Bon Bon Life... (Grand Royal)

for the week ending 12/6

Uninspired computer game reveals mysterious Fat Lou is a big fat zero

BY TONY HILTON
HATCHET REPORTER

The new computer game "Who's Fat Lou" (Mediola) begins with an introduction telling of a bleak future for Zett City, the setting of the game.

The inhabitants have been forced to live a bland existence devoid of color and life under the oppressive dictatorship of El Guapo, an evil renegade rapper. He rules from the throne in his castle, hidden deep in Outtadaway park.

Only you, Fat Lou, can end El Guapo's evil tyranny. You must journey through the park, face "difficult" puzzles and challenges, find the castle and collect musical bonus icons along the way so you might defeat El Guapo at his own game.

You usually can't tell how good a game is based on its opening sequence. Sometimes they're impressive, but the game is terrible, and sometimes a drab opening gives way to a great game.

The bleak opening of "Who's Fat Lou," on the other

hand, shows you exactly what you're getting: The most pathetic piece of dreck anyone will ever have the pleasure of playing.

First off, the game's user-friendliness is at a bare minimum. It's difficult to even move from one area to another. As for the animation ... what animation? There is none. The game contains only still pictures. They shuffle by quickly to simulate movement, but it's not exactly a paragon of animation technology.

Moving onto the puzzles - if anyone finds them difficult, they're dumber than a monkey, because monkeys do these kinds of things for NASA. If you fail one, it sends you back to the previous area, forcing you to watch the same stupid animation again.

The whole game is a waste of data. The premise is infantile and the theme is an (unsuccessful) attempt to simulate the look and feel of "Ren & Stimpy." The story is boring, tired and totally played out. The control is negligible and the fun factor is a big, whopping zero. If you see "Who's Fat Lou" in the stores, don't just pass it by, spit on it.

SPOTLIGHT

S, 'O Tannenbaum, how tacky are thy branches'

Senior waxes poetic about National Christmas Tree, possible last holiday season in D.C.

BY KAREN D. ANCILLAI
HATCHET STAFF WRITER

Like many seniors, the start of my last year of college has left me looking around wondering where time has gone. The realization that it's almost over has spurred me to make a list of things to do this last year at GW, things I may have passed up the past three years with the attitude that "there's still plenty of time."

At the top of my list was viewing the Pageant of Peace on The Ellipse in December. The lighting of the National Christmas Tree was always something I intended to see but didn't find out about each December until I turned on the news at night and saw some reporter broadcasting that the President had just lit the tree.

I vowed not to miss it again and watched the newspapers for the past few weeks for some sort of indication of when the ceremony would be. I told myself nothing would stop me from going — not class, not work, not plague, nor pestilence. Well, maybe pestilence.

It was so important for me to see the lighting because I'm not sure I'll ever have the opportunity to see it again. Three-and-a-half years ago when I came to school in Washington, I couldn't imagine wanting to live anywhere else. It seemed to be in the center of it all, and full of endless opportunities to make a difference.

Three-and-a-half-years later, I can't imagine living here any longer. The pace of Washington has wearied me. The politics of Washington has made me a cynic. The urban decay of Washington has saddened me.

This feeling probably contributed in large part to my urgency to see the Pageant of Peace. I wanted to give Washington one last chance. Here was a moment when everything would be pure and genuine in this city known for its back-stabbing and manipulation.

So there I stood on The Ellipse, in the cold and sporadically rainy early evening Thursday. The Roanoke College Children's Choir sang "We Need a Little Christmas," and I joined in with my slightly less pretty voice. Later Patti LaBelle came on stage and joined the choir in a medley of some jazzed-up Christmas carols. I bopped along, getting into the spirit and keeping the

blood circulating to my toes.

Country singer LeAnn Rimes also performed, singing the "Put a Little Holiday in Your Heart" song she also sings on the Target commercial with the Warner Bros. characters. So I knew the words. When she was done, she asked the crowd "How many of you children out there have seen a Christmas production of 'The Nutcracker?'"

Then she introduced three girls from The Washington Ballet's Young Dancers troupe to perform an excerpt from the show. I coaxed my tingling toes into allowing me to stand on their tips so I could see better, because this almost-grown kid has never seen the "The Nutcracker" (I've never been to Disney World, either. Can you believe my parents?).

When the Pageant got dull, like when some General Electric executive was presenting

Willard Scott-dressed-as-Santa-Claus with a painting of the tree to commemorate Scott's 25th year with the pageant, I took in the sights. I people-watched, amazed at the number of families on The Ellipse. It seemed all the people who normally crowd onto the Metro and sit silently for the long commute to the suburbs hadn't been in such a rush to leave the city that night.

Instead, they brought their children and their parents (and their dog in many cases) into Washington for a few hours.

Another thing that captured my interest was the Menorah to the right rear of the tree. Hanukkah began Thursday at sundown. The juxtaposition of the Christmas tree with the Menorah held particular significance for me as I stood on The Ellipse glove-in-glove with my boyfriend of three years, who is Jewish. Religion has never been an issue for us, but everyone who knows us can't imagine how it couldn't be. For me, these two silent forms rising up out of the darkness were a reaffirmation that our two worlds could coexist peacefully.

Finally, the moment had arrived — President Clinton stepped to the podium and spoke about how the world is becoming an increasingly peaceful place, although there is much work still to be done. I started to think that maybe I was giving up too easily, that maybe I could make a difference in this rat-race of a town. If I pick up and move in May as I have been planning, I would certainly miss events like this.

I snapped out of my reverie as the President began the countdown. All sorts of beautiful images flashed in my head, imagining what the tree would look like. I had been fortunate enough to visit The White House on a class trip of sorts earlier that week, and had seen and smelled Christmas firsthand. The holiday season at The White House is a special occasion, marked by roaring fireplaces and fragrant trees decorated in sparkling white lights and ribbons. I pictured a repeat experience.

What I got was something a little different — a tacky horror of a tree. It changed from multicolored lights to white lights to green lights. It certainly was unique. I chuckled to myself that if the road behind The White House hadn't been closed off due to security reasons, the Secret Service would have to close

it now because that tree would be such a distraction to drivers, they would drive into the fence on the other side of the road.

With the gaudy spectacle flashing on his left, the somewhat hoarse President asked the crowd to join in some caroling. Humming along with "Sleigh Bells," I joined the spectators in filing off The Ellipse. And despite the cold on the long walk home, I was thinking the whole time that it might not be so bad to be in Washington to witness another few Pageants of Peace.

Put down those books for a night this weekend and enjoy some of the holiday revelry on campus and in the city:

- Hanukkah is already here, and the University is sponsoring a celebration Monday in the Gelman Yard from 5:15 to 6:15 p.m. Come enjoy hot latkes and free dreidels and menorahs.

- The Christmas Revels this weekend bring traditional music, dance and stories from icy Scandinavian countries to Lisner Auditorium. The shows run on Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 2 and 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 to \$25 and are available on a limited basis at the Lisner Box Office one hour before curtain time.

- The Moscow State Ballet will bring the magic of the holiday classic "The Nutcracker" to Lisner Auditorium on Dec. 19 and 20 at 7:30 p.m., Dec. 21 at 2 and 7:30 p.m., and Dec. 22 at 1 and 5 p.m. (for those who will still be around). For tickets, call TicketMaster at (202) 432-SEAT.

- Charles Dickens' classic "A Christmas Carol" is now showing at Ford's Theatre, 511 10th St., N.W. Shows run on Tuesdays through Sundays at 7:30 p.m., with matinees on Wednesday and Thursday at 1 p.m., Saturday at 2 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m. For tickets, call ProTix at (703) 218-6500 or the box office at (202) 347-4833.

- View the holiday decorations at The White House by calling your congressman's office to find out about public tours. Usually they are early on weekend mornings, so be prepared.

—Justin Bergman



Dave Flintzen/Photo Editor

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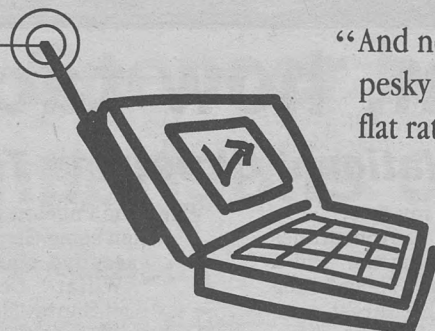
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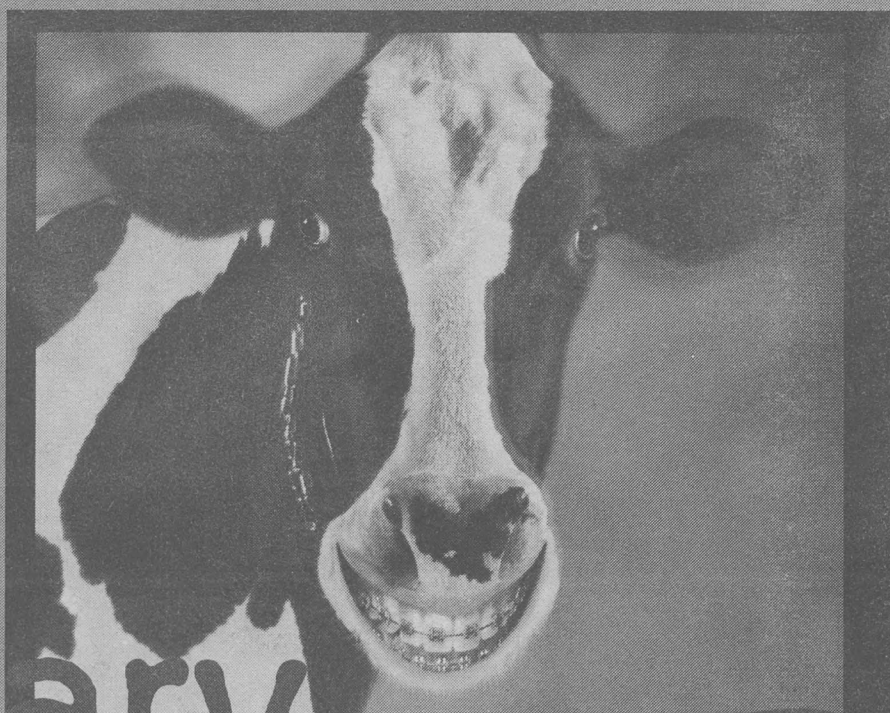
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Students seek depth, meaning on campus

(from p. 1)

Muslims on campus, Chaudary said, have become more aware religiously because of the MSA, which provides GW Muslims with a sense of community. "During our month of fasting, all Muslims on campus are fasting. And when you see someone else who you know is not eating or drinking anything, like you, then you feel that common bond. And if you feel that unity, you want to become more involved," she said.

Chaudary said apathy toward Islam can be common in Muslims from overseas who are shocked by a free country, such as the United States, that is not restrained by "Islamic Laws."

These students "kind of go wild, kind of letting free a bird who has been caged up," she said.

"When you force someone, then they lose that sense of freedom. And when they have the opportunity to not do it, they won't do it," Chaudary added.

Father Jim Greenfield, the Catholic Chaplain at the Newman House, is writing his doctoral dissertation in human development on how spirituality plays a role in college life. He has found so far that college is the time people begin to develop a religious identity, because students can make their own decisions about how religious they want to be.

He echoed what students have attributed for loss of religious feeling. "I think a lot of people have negative experiences of formal religion. I hear that all the time. They say, 'If only I knew the Newman Center was like this.'"

The comfortable, student-led atmosphere of the Newman Center, Greenfield said, is appealing to young people.

He finds GW students to be particularly interested in religion and spirituality. He said 400 to 500 students attend services at the Newman House each weekend. Last weekend hosted a particularly large crowd, due to exam week, he said.

"People are really looking for depth, meaning and something beyond just what's all around them, and I think they find that in religion and God. And I think they are especially excited when they come and see so many other students doing the same," Greenfield said.

The fact that students are enmeshed in their religion, Greenfield said, attracts other students who begin to make religious observance part of their schedule.

The Newman Center, Hillel, the Protestant Campus Ministry and the GW Board of Chaplains build the bridges between students and their religions. Religion Month in November went exceptionally well, Greenfield said.

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Watch out Madonna ... here comes GW

The most anticipated thing to come out of Foggy Bottom since Yinka Dare has hit GW this weekend. The new GW CD, released by the Student Association, features musical selections from campus groups and was debuted Sunday night to excited crowds at J Street.

The CD, entitled *Respectfully Yours, G. Washington*, showcases a wide range of GW's musical and comedy talent. Everyone from the Troubadours to University Singers to King James and the Serfs of Swing is featured on the CD.

GW's own improv comedy troupe Recess also makes a few interludes on the disk, which will be available in the GW Bookstore for \$10. Thirty-two groups auditioned for a chance to appear on the CD, and 17 were chosen.

"There's such a variety of GW talent represented on it that everyone can find something on it they like," Abigail Sanford, the SA vice president of student activities, told The GW Hatchet earlier this year.

—Kevin Eckstrom and Anne Miller

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(from p. 20)

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Mixed feelings voiced about JEC proposals

(from p. 1)

believes work needs to be done on financing but doesn't "think the way they did it was best."

Salinas said he thought the financial changes "were a very positive move on (the JEC's) part." He said now that candidates can approach businesses and student groups for in-kind donations, the candidates will be forced to be more innovative. It will improve the quality of the candidates, Salinas said.

SA Vice President for Public Affairs David Eldred said he is concerned about the funding changes. He said it is possible that sponsors could overspend and disqualify their candidate.

Salinas added that he is also concerned with the possible loopholes in funding.

Arnold said she talked to students who are "worried that donations will cause fines," adding that a clause needs to be added to prevent this.

Salinas said another good thing could come out of the changes. "Perhaps it will give an opportuni-

ty to someone who is not as financially well-off to participate."

Eldred also said he believes the changes will make it "a lot easier for financially challenged (candidates)."

"If it wasn't for some of my friends, I wouldn't have been able to run," McKenna said, approving of in-kind donations.

Arnold, however, said "Running for office" doesn't cost that much. She said she plans to attend the public hearing of the JEC at the end of January to comment on the problems with the proposals. McKenna said he encourages students to attend the meeting.

In addition, the election voting days have been moved up a week to Tuesday, Feb. 18 and Wednesday, Feb. 19 because the National Association of Campus Activities convention will be held during the originally proposed time slot for voting. Salinas said four to five PB members will attend the conference, and the JEC also moved the dates last year to accommodate the group.

E-MAIL THE EDITOR

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GW'S WEEKLY CALENDAR

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

AED: The Pre-Med Honor Society. New membership applications are available at Marvin Center 423 and must be completed by January 17, 1997. Info? Contact Rebekah at 965-1685.

SHUTO SOCIETY, Karate Classes. Medical School Room 116. Every Sunday 10:30 AM-Noon and Wednesday 8:30-9:30 AM. First Class Free. Info? Contact Walter at 202-298-6531.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9

EMES, Chanukah Celebration. Gelman Yard, 5:15-6:15 PM. Info? Contact Mat at 546-8400.

COMMUNITY CIRCLE, General Meeting. Welcome to everyone. Marvin Center 403, 8:00-9:00 PM. Info? Contact Rusty at 994-8361.

STUDY ABROAD, University of Miami Study Abroad Orientation. Stuart Hall 103, 9:00 AM. Mandatory for all students studying on a University of Miami program abroad this spring.

NSEP Information Session. Stuart Hall 103, 2:00-3:00 PM.

Info? Contact Alissa at 994-1649.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11

ACADEMIC SUCCESS SERIES, Score Higher on Tests II. 2033 K Street, Suite 330, 4:10-5:30 PM. Info? Contact the University Counseling Center at 994-5300.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12

UNIVERSITY HONORS SYMPOSIUM, "The Dinosaur Heresies", a lecture by Robert Bakker. Funger 103, 8:00 PM. Info? Contact Mary at 994-6816.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13

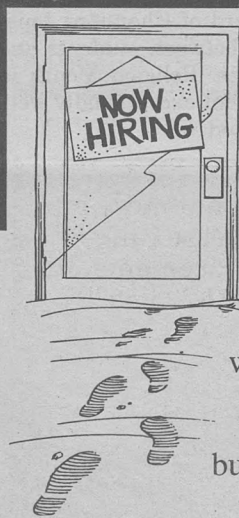
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

STUDENT ASSOCIATION, Foggy Bottom Tours. Visitor's Center, 11:30 AM. Info? Contact Emily at 994-7100.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

"Do This!" submissions are due by Noon on the Wednesday preceding publication or they can be dropped off at Marvin Center 427. We reserve the right to limit each office to three submissions per week.

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SA sets its sights on graduate students

(from p. 1)

Blackford added that many graduate students depend on the government bodies of their particular schools to advocate their needs. The law and medical schools and the School of Engineering and Applied Science have their own government organizations.

"I think the SA does a reasonable job of funding activities held by graduate organizations," Papadopoulos said.

None of the three advocated a separate organization.

"The SA is a universal student voice," Meagher said. "By dividing our voice, we would be dividing our influence. Then we'd be two voices that are half as loud."

Blackford agreed, adding that splitting the groups could never serve the needs of both.

The senators agreed, however, that a need exists to address the concerns of graduate students within the SA. Meagher suggested forming a caucus of graduate senators to discuss issues facing the Senate.

He added that forming an undergraduate student caucus, as well as forming groups from each of the schools, would allow for more communication within the Senate.

"What we can do is target services that would benefit graduate students," Papadopoulos said.

Meagher added, "We can always do more."

One project that Papadopoulos suggested was the establishment of a house or space for graduate students to use on campus.

"Most grad students come onto campus between about 4 and 9 p.m.," he said. "It would be nice for

them to be able to come here and have a place to read, study, meet friends, listen to a CD."

The graduate senators said that though there are sometimes conflicts among graduate students and undergraduates in the Senate, the different perspectives were ultimately beneficial.

"There is a certain degree of frustration," Papadopoulos said. "Sometimes we don't seem to be singing from the same songbook."

He added that he and Cummins are continuing to advocate lower class size. "I think we need to do some more selling within the executive branch."

He said that while the Senate can tackle many issues, the president and his cabinet have to balance issues. McKenna "has to decide which battles he wants to fight."

Papadopoulos said he is doubtful that forming a graduate student association would be successful because graduate students are so focused on their educational interests.

"Especially among the arts and sciences students, graduates are concentrated in small blocks in their specific programs," he said. "They're very tightly knit, so getting them to cooperate is sometimes difficult."

But he also said graduate students expect less from the SA than undergraduates do.

"There are certainly some deficiencies in grad student life," Meagher said. "There are some areas that may need to be split, but I think the SA is the last place to do it."

Teens get a jump on business

BY MONIQUE L. HARDING
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

Although they are still years away from entering the business world, a group of area teenagers got a preview of it from some GW experts this weekend.

Junior high students came to GW's Hall of Government to find out what to expect in college, and what to do if they start a business.

Ten students from the Francis Junior High School at 24th and N streets, N.W., were invited to the annual Youth Challenge Workshop sponsored by the Center for the Advancement of Small Business.

Across the street at Strong Hall, the Multicultural Student Services Center sponsored a day of learning and sharing for about 20 Outward Bound students from different schools in the D.C. area hosted by the Delta Sigma Theta sorority.

Through the Outward Bound program, the kids went to North Carolina earlier this year for two

weeks in the woods, learning to work with each other.

The Outward Bound students were invited to the Youth Challenge workshop, where Delta Sigma Theta dance-stepped and spoke about community service, such as feeding the homeless, during their routine.

The sorority members also sat in a circle around the junior high and high school students to answer questions.

School of Business and Public Management Faculty Coordinator Dr. Charles Toftoy spoke about "getting the idea to start a small business."

President of the Black MBA Association Crystal Jackson said the event was about sharing. "It takes a lot to share, and when you share genuinely, people latch on," she said of the GW students who volunteered their time to help kids.

"We had a well-mixed group ... culturally diverse. We don't like to use the term minority. It's too small," Jackson said.

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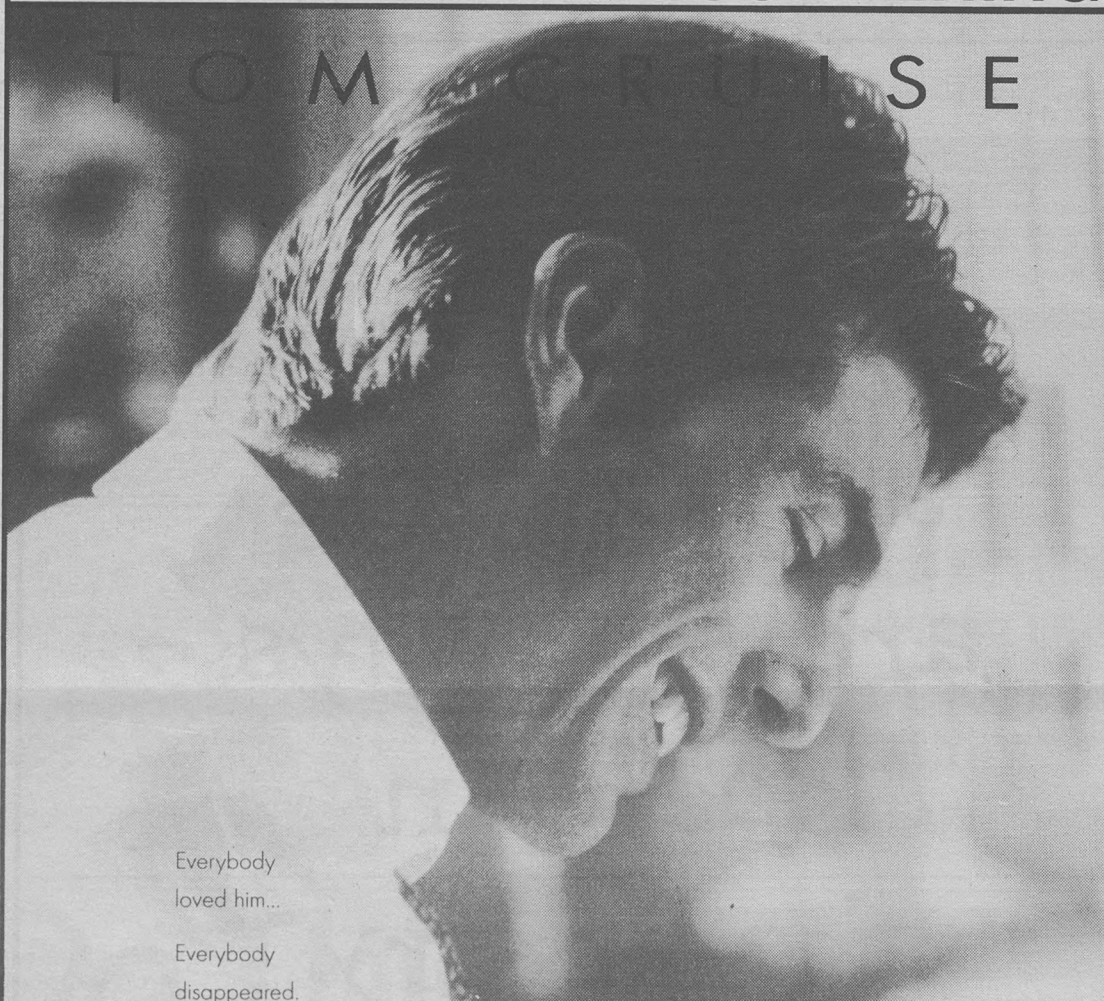
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ORL signals it will end in-hall lottery

BY EMILY PHELPS AND
STACEY FELSEN
HATCHET STAFF WRITERS

GW students have spoken, and some major changes will take place in the residence halls next year.

Residence Hall Association President Ron Jacobs announced Wednesday night that the Student Association had unanimously voted to support RHA's resolution to terminate the in-hall lottery.

Sheila Curtin, director of the Office of Residential Life, said that between RHA's resolution and the SA's support, "It is 99.9 percent certain that we will not have in-hall."

In-hall lottery, which allows students to choose specific rooms in their residence hall, has been an on-going source of debate at RHA meetings during this semester. Abolishing in-hall lottery, Jacobs said, "offers more flexibility."

Curtin said the in-hall rule change would be better for students, because it would allow them to choose "from rooms in different halls instead of the best room in their hall."

Dianne Gayoski, executive vice

president for the SA, said, "We chose to support the RHA because we feel that as the governing body of all the residence halls, they did the research, they went to all the residence hall councils, it directly affects them."

Curtin added that "Crawford Hall is slated to be all freshmen," next year, and she is again anticipating a bed shortage for the 1997-98 school year.

"I don't want freshmen living in a building like the Aston again. I prefer to keep freshmen in traditional residence halls, and the more apartment-style buildings for upperclassmen. Since Crawford is half-filled with freshmen already, it makes sense," she said.

The future of off-campus buildings, such as the Aston, which have been used to house overflow students, is uncertain. ORL is exploring its options with different buildings in Foggy Bottom, but ORL Assistant Director Paul Barkett refused to go into specifics about the future of more off-campus GW-run housing.

ORL is "in the process of negotiating with several different properties," Curtin said.

Mock trial team preps for court simulation

Organizers of the new Mock Trial Team, the first at GW, are hoping to give undergraduate students experience that will aid them in law school and beyond.

The team will be made up of four smaller teams composed of six to eight members each. The teams will compete with other universities in competitions designed as civil cases. This year's case involves wrongful death. Each team, portraying attorneys and witnesses, will argue either the defense or the prosecution. The teams do not know which they will argue until the day of the competition.

Organized by Mark Ebert, the pre-law advisor for the Columbian

School of Arts and Sciences, and student Michael Nelson, the team is not an independent student organization. It is funded through the dean's office of CSAS. "We are going to be closely connected to the faculty," said Nelson.

In an informational meeting, students planning to join the Mock Trial Team were given a packet describing the case and were asked to prepare a four-minute argument for either the defense or prosecution. Team members were selected by tryouts.

The team's goal is to be prepared for the upcoming competition at the University of Maryland on Feb. 22.

—Judi Mahaney

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SPORTS



Claire Duggan/Photo Editor

GW's Yegor Mescheriakov puts an exclamation point on the Colonials' bizarre win Sunday afternoon. Mescheriakov's dunk came at the tail end of a 28-3 GW run that turned a close game into a laugh.

In its defense, GW did turn it up

Colonials spurred by starters' pressure in 2nd half

BY BEN OSBORNE
SPORTS EDITOR

LANDOVER, Md. — With 11:44 left in the Colonials' game against Mississippi State, GW was tied with the Bulldogs at 32. Pretty impressive, right, to be tied with a team that made the Final Four a year ago? Well, this is not the same Mississippi State team, and the fact is, things did not look pretty for the Colonials.

What turned things around for the inconsistent Colonials? Defense. And not just your typical tight defense. GW turned up the pressure in a big way, literally and figuratively, after an officials' time out with 11:34 left and GW up by two.

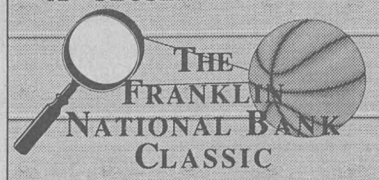
Up until that point, GW had played sloppy, uninspired basketball, much like its undermanned opponents. MSU was playing without all five starters from a year ago, and lost recently at home to James Madison. The tie score was not at all what GW head coach Mike Jarvis had in mind.

"We had to do something," Jarvis said. "It was turning into a

game that might've been 41-40 with the outcome dependent on who had the ball last."

The Colonials came out of the timeout and played their most inspired defense of the year. GW starters Andrei Krivonos, Shawnta Rogers, Alexander Koul, Yegor Mescheriakov and J.J. Brade were

A CLOSER LOOK AT:



all over the court. On the Bulldogs' first three possessions against the press, they were totally overwhelmed, including one Brade-forced 10-second violation.

Rogers also seemed invigorated by the new defensive strategy. All of the sudden he was a whirling dervish, deflecting balls, grabbing rebounds and speeding up the Colonials' offense.

"We turned to the pressure so we could create turnovers," Rogers

said.

The pressure and the turnovers had a direct effect on the Colonials' offense. Krivonos started GW's run with a three-pointer, and when Mescheriakov capped the run with a jump shot and then a monster slam dunk, GW was up by a whopping 57-34 with 1:51 left.

While the offensive highlights were obvious to fans, the defense was undoubtedly the key. Jarvis was clear about who deserved credit for the team's late-game dominance.

"The players deserve all the credit for their defense, not me. Just like they have to take the credit for shooting 32 percent," he said.

Before the team's run, GW's defense had been decent, with Mescheriakov the standout. He had the tough assignment of guarding former junior college all-American Horatio Webster. Webster has done well in his first year at MSU, and came into the GW game averaging a team-high 17.5 points.

Mescheriakov hounded him all afternoon, however, holding the burly forward to just 10 points on 3 of 12 shooting.

GW takes ugly win over Mississippi St.

BY MATT BONESTEEL
SPORTS EDITOR

LANDOVER, Md. — The last time GW and Mississippi State squared off on the basketball court, the year was 1967. When the two teams met in the first round of the Franklin National Bank Classic Sunday at USAir Arena, it seemed as if both teams were looking to recreate the poor shooting and low scoring of that era.

GW pulled ahead in the final 10 minutes of the game to come away with a 57-36 victory, but it wasn't pretty, as poor shooting ruled the court. The Colonials took home the win despite shooting only 32 percent from the field. Fortunately for them, Mississippi State shot 30 percent.

The Bulldogs actually led 31-29 at the 13:57 mark of the second half. Sensing that something needed to be done, GW head coach Mike Jarvis called for a full-court press. It worked to perfection, as the inexperienced Mississippi State team lost its composure and began to turn the ball over. Consecutive three-point shots from Andrei Krivonos and Shawnta Rogers ignited a 15-1 GW run over the next four minutes that sealed the victory.

"We had to do something," Jarvis said. "It was turning into a game (that was going down to the wire) ... And since the offense wasn't getting it done, we had to do it with defense."

Leading the way for the Colonials was Rogers, who fronted the charge in the final minutes with floor leadership and good defense. The point guard finished with team-highs of 14 points, seven assists, seven rebounds and three steals.

Forward Yegor Mescheriakov also poured in 14 points, eight coming during the final 10 minutes. His monster dunk near the end of the game put an exclamation point on the victory. Mescheriakov's play in

the low post was especially important, as GW center Alexander Koul, who scored 10 points for the game, struggled with foul trouble.

The Bulldogs, who lost all five starters from last year's Final Four team, were led by forward Horatio Webster, who finished with 10 points and eight rebounds.

Both teams were equally sloppy in the first half, with GW leading 25-19 at the break. Three-pointers were the difference, as the Colonials got one each from Rogers, Darin Green and Seco Camara. Meanwhile, the Bulldogs were ice-cold from downtown. For the game, MSU missed all eight shots it took from behind the arc.

"It concerned me when we were playing sloppy," Jarvis said. "But there are going to be nights that are sloppier than sloppy."

Despite the win, the Colonials' performance Sunday was reminiscent of their performance in last year's Franklin National Bank Classic, where they were outplayed on successive days by Florida and Maryland, losing both games. GW will get a chance for revenge against one of those teams Monday night, as they take on the Terrapins in the championship game. Maryland defeated California 80-64 in the first game of the tournament Sunday.

Jarvis and his team are looking forward to the game against their local rival. "It's big. Two local schools will be playing in a great college basketball game," he said. "People who are playing in it play it with a lot of pride."

"When I go home for the summer, we play on the same team sometimes," said Rogers, who is from Baltimore, referring to Maryland forward Keith Booth. "It means a lot of bragging rights."

Tip-off for Monday night's championship game between the 4-1 Colonials and the 5-0 Terrapins is 8 p.m.



Claire Duggan/Photo Editor

GW guard Andrei Krivonos applies air-tight defense on Mississippi State's Trey Moore as part of GW's increased defensive intensity in the second half of Sunday's win.

SPORTS

GW volleyball team looks to future

BY ADAM WILLIS
HATCHET SPORTS WRITER

After three seasons of conference dominance and success at the national level, 1996 was a back-to-earth season for the GW volleyball team.

A preseason filled with questions became a mid-season wrought with growing pains for a team with only three seniors, no juniors and five new players. As the Atlantic 10 Conference season hit its stretch run, opportunities turned into painful defeats, and a poor record in its last 10 matches left the team at 13-20 (9-11 A-10) and without a ticket to the conference tournament.

"Graduation you can see coming. Transfers you can't prepare for," head coach Susie Homan said early in the season. The experience lost to graduation of last season's successful class was to be made up for, in part, by the talent and poise of GW's returning second-year players.

The defections of Megan Korver, the Atlantic 10's Freshman of the Year in 1995, and outside hitter Kara Deringer left the Colonial Women with a much bigger hole than anticipated.

Nevertheless, Theresa Ridder made the leap to collegiate starter with ease. Contributions from her and Angela Vitale augmented solid play from sophomores Mya Eveland and Tai Bethune, and the unexpected impact of sophomore Crystal Akens helped keep GW respectable.

The younger players were led by three seniors. Heather McNab made her presence felt, but had to do it off the court due to an injury. This left the on-court

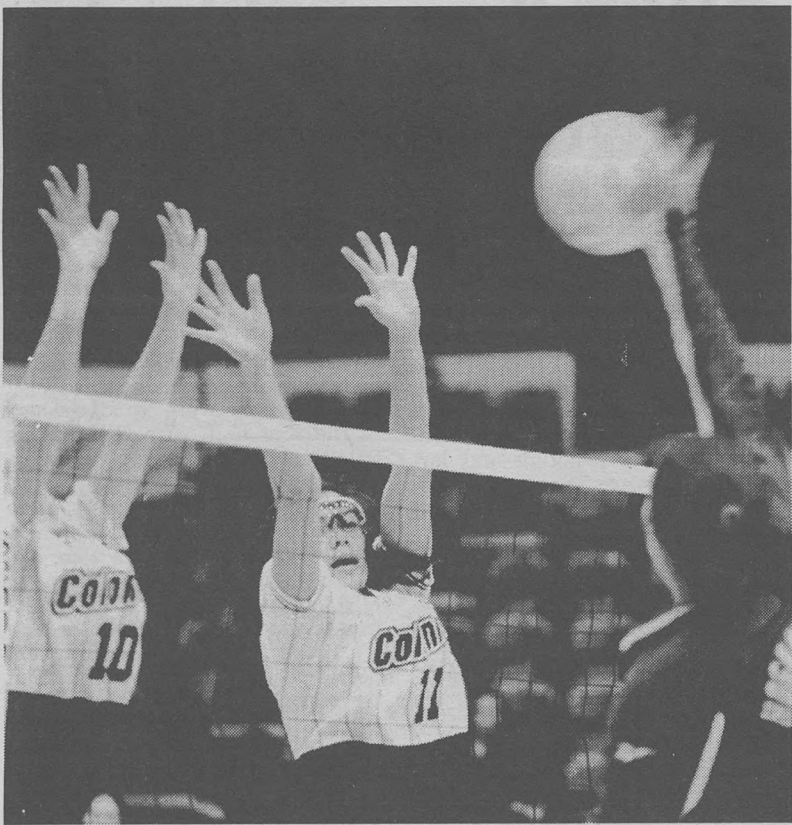
leadership duties to Anna Krimmel, GW's most consistent outside hitter, and Kate Haubenreich, the team's captain, who went on to finish her career with 4,851 assists, a new GW record. This nucleus, aided by freshman Anne Fitzgerald and mid-season acquisition Muge Pars, played better than could have been expected during the early days of the season.

At the A-10 season's midpoint, GW had a 3-7 conference record, still within striking distance of one of the A-10's top four spots and a trip to the conference tournament. The growing period was over, confidence was high, and the Colonial Women were ready to make their charge.

Tough losses to Virginia Tech and Temple, however, wounded GW's confidence and all but destroyed the Colonial Women's chances for post-season play.

GW could not get past the A-10's better teams, and the season's frustrations were typified by the last match of the year, at home against Massachusetts. After coming back from a 2-1 deficit in games, GW tied the match at two and played the Minutewomen to a 13-13 tie in the fifth. But UMass scored points on the next two rallies, ending GW's season with one more heartbreaking loss.

The future is far sunnier than the immediate past for the Colonial Women. Despite the losses of Haubenreich, McNab and Krimmel, next year's sophomore class includes Ridder, Fitzgerald and Pars, while Akens, Bethune, Eveland and Vitale only will be juniors. The rest of the A-10 should bask in the glow of its respite from GW dominance. The break may not last too long.



Jay Crystal/staff photographer

Seniors Kate Haubenreich (l.) and Anna Krimmel (r.) were an integral part of GW's volleyball few successes this year.

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SPORTS

GW shows pride in 75-61 loss to sixth-ranked Lady Lions

BY BEN OSBORNE
SPORTS EDITOR

During Saturday's game in the hostile environs of Penn State's Bryce Jordan Center, the GW women's basketball team had perhaps its best stretch of the season, outscoring the ninth-ranked Lady Lions 21-4 in a seven-minute period in the second half.

Problem was, GW's run was sandwiched by too much Penn State offense, and the Colonial Women fell by a score of 75-61. The loss, which came before a crowd of more than 7,000, dropped GW's record to 1-3.

Sparked by forward Shaunta Hall (11 points, five rebounds), Penn State went on a streak in the second half that gave it a 55-31 lead with just less than 13 minutes remaining in the game. At that point, the Colonial Women made a strong decision not to give up.

"We definitely showed heart," GW senior Lisa Cermignano said. "There was a sense that maybe we

weren't playing as hard as we could, and we all finally stepped it up a bit."

It was nearly "all" the Colonial Women that cut Penn State's lead to just 59-52 with 5:52 left. Besides the Colonial Women's normal offensive sources, GW got five points from point guard Colleen McCrea and seven from Vesna Perak, who had seen minimal playing time in the team's three earlier games.

After GW's exciting spurt, however, Penn State scored 10 of the next 12 points to effectively end the game.

The first half saw GW shoot a mere 30 percent from the floor while Penn State shot 53 percent en route to a 34-25 lead at the intermission. GW's star in the first half was center Tajama Abraham, who scored 15 of her game-high 23 points.

Freshman guard Chasity Myers continued her fine play for GW, scoring 17 points. Myers and Abraham were still not enough to

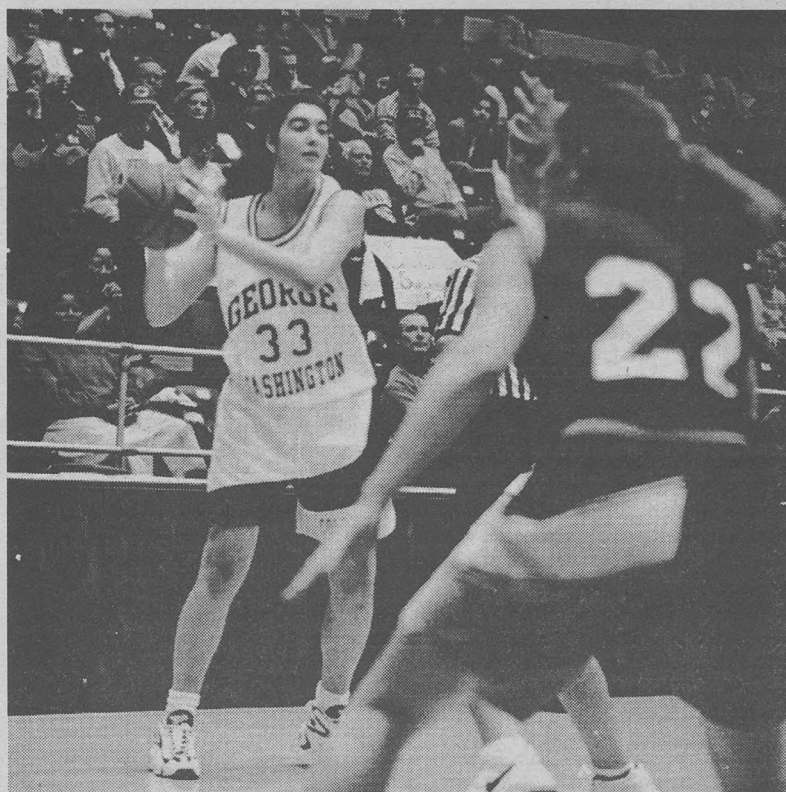
make up for a zero-point performance from the team's starting forwards.

One of the team's usual starting forwards, Noelia Gomez, was out with a severe case of the flu, which Cermignano said "the whole team sort of has."

Gomez' absence required head coach Joe McKeown to start sophomore Mandisa Turner alongside Cermignano at forward. Turner has been a fine role player for GW, but when thrown into the starting lineup, she struggled, going scoreless along with Cermignano.

With this year's slow start resembling last year's shaky 0-2 and 4-3 beginning, GW feels an urge to regroup like the team did last year. It has more than a week before its next game, at home against UCLA on Dec. 19.

"We still haven't found a way to win," Cermignano said. "But over the next two weeks coach McKeown wants us working out and getting healthy, and hopefully we'll put it together."



Dave Flintzen/Photo Editor

Forward Noelia Gomez, shown in action earlier this season, missed Saturday's game against Penn State due to illness. Her absence hurt the Colonial Women, who lost 75-61 in University Park, Pa.

Swimmers pass tests at AU meet

BY JAMIE LIN
HATCHET SPORTS WRITER

Both the GW men's and women's swim teams skillfully aced a three-day test at the Nike Invitational, hosted by American University.

No, it wasn't a test of the Krebs cycle, differential equations or ancient Greek history, but a test of dealing with temperature, distractions and unfamiliar territories.

The women's team passed with first place marks while the men came away with second in a class that featured 10 squads from Divisions I, II and III.

What the teams had to face was a competition area that was abnormally warm and a staging area where they stayed in between swims that was abnormally cold.

"It wasn't really ideal. It created an atmosphere where the kids had to learn to compete in adverse situations," assistant coach Dan Rhinehart said. Rhinehart was presiding over the meet while head coach Marc Hagen was at the U.S. Open with team members Tim Champney and Chad Senior.

Rhinehart also saw the meet as "an opportunity to learn how to handle ourselves over a three-day competition. That's important because conference championships is a three-day meet."

With the conference meet being the ultimate goal for all the swimmers, Hagen thought this meet was "just another stepping stone to conference. An opportunity to work on your stroke and see where you are."

But swimmers also got the chance to explore other

strokes as well. "It's sort of an opportunity to swim some races maybe they haven't got a chance to swim all year because you can swim more than two individual races ... you can swim up to four or five," Hagen said.

Perhaps the final part of the test were academic tests. With finals coming up, swimmers have more to concentrate on than just their races. "All the tension from finals might have hurt some people," freshman Juan Bocanegra said.

Despite all these conditions, the lack of competition enabled the Colonials to prevail, especially on the women's side. "The field was not very competitive with us," junior Jessica Stensland said.

Bambi Bowman, swimming in her final meet at GW, and Connie Shelton placed first in four individual events each, amassing a whopping 160 points. Freestyler Debbie Ginzl had notable performances as well. "She is turning into a real good swimmer. She's going to be kind of the sleeper of the year and will develop into a strong scorer at A-10's," Rhinehart said.

For the men, Joseph Lintott won the mile and Joe Corallo had a strong showing in the 500-freestyle. Bocanegra, who had some of his best times over the weekend, was "shocked at my times for this point in the season."

In January, both teams will be looking to put in some hard training as they head south to Key West, Fla., for a training trip. "We will be doing heavy training without distractions of cold weather and academics so we can really focus on the second half of our season," Rhinehart said.

SPORTS BRIEFS

GW soccer players net awards

Men's soccer player Ben Ferry and women's soccer player Tanya Vogel were both named to the Atlantic 10 academic all-conference team. Ferry, a junior midfielder, coupled a 3.6 grade point average with a team-leading 22 points. He majors in fine arts.

Vogel, a senior midfielder who majors in exercise science, earned a 3.43 GPA to go with her outstanding on-field performances. She led the team in scoring with 25 points and was recently named to the National Soccer Coaches Association of America/Umbro all-

region first team.

Vogel's teammate, junior Chemar Smith, was named to the NSCAA/Umbro all-region third team.

Support your team

The athletic department is offering tickets and transportation to Monday night's basketball game at USAir Arena between GW and the University of Maryland.

Tickets cost \$5 and will be available starting at 10 a.m. Monday at the Smith Center ticket office. Bus transportation will also cost \$5. The bus will depart from

the Smith Center at approximately 6:30 p.m., although interested students should confirm the time with the athletic department.

Krimmel earns volleyball honor

GW senior middle blocker Anna Krimmel has been named to the all-conference volleyball team. Krimmel finished the season ranked third in the conference with 1.27 blocks per game.

Krimmel led the Colonial Women this year with a .257 hitting percentage, and also led the team in total blocks.

—Ben Osborne

The Muted Cheer

Maybe Texas Tech will beat the SI-like jinx

I feel like a *Sports Illustrated* writer. Two weeks ago I picked three college basketball teams of the week and since then they have all lost. One of them even managed to lose twice!

Clemson, whose ranking soared to No. 10 following its upset of Kentucky, was promptly knocked off by Minnesota. Arizona, despite its big win Saturday over No. 3 Utah, lost to No. 11 New Mexico. And No. 21 Tulsa was beaten by both Houston and that Atlantic 10 powerhouse, St. Joseph's.

This long week presented me with plenty of streaking squads making a run at Team of the Week. Indiana looked like it was back among the elite hoops teams after beating Duke. However, Kentucky's pressure defense smothered the Hoosiers and their rising star Andrae Patterson as Kentucky won by 34 points Saturday.

Could this mean the Wildcats are back in the title hunt? Maybe. Head coach Rick Pitino says this year's team is better defensively than the team that won the NCAA Tournament last year. Lacking last year's depth, it will be interesting to see if Kentucky can maintain the defensive pressure during the long season.

Kansas solidified itself as the No. 1 team. After winning the Maui tournament over Thanksgiving, the Jayhawks returned to the mainland beating physical No. 4 Cincinnati and the reeling Bruins of UCLA.

These two victories came without all-American point guard Jacques Vaughn (don't worry, Colonial fans, looks like he'll also miss the game against GW Wednesday).

Despite Kansas' great play, the

Team of the Week is the Red Raiders of Texas Tech. As GW found out, Texas Tech has not lost a step since last year's tourney run. Not only did the Red Raiders shoot the lights out in the Smith Center, they won their next game against No. 12 New Mexico.

It will be tough for college basketball to equal the great schedule of this past Saturday, which featured a bunch of top 25 showdowns. However, next Saturday should be quite interesting, as Fresno State visits Texas and Duke goes to Villanova for the week's most intriguing match-up.

Speaking of great games, a muted cheer goes to NCAA football for Saturday's excitement. The three conference championships (Big 12, WAC and SEC) should have made the Bowl Alliance shiver. Texas knocked off No. 3 Nebraska in one of the best games of the year, while sixth-ranked Brigham Young knocked off Wyoming in overtime.

I couldn't help but smile when Alabama closed the gap to three points in the third quarter against No. 4 Florida. The possibility of Texas, Virginia Tech, BYU and Alabama in the Bowl Alliance created a perverse wish to see college football's new system of determining a national champion destroyed. Alas, Florida prevailed to set up a rematch with Florida State in the Sugar Bowl.

What happens if Arizona State beats Ohio State in the Rose Bowl and Florida State wins the Sugar? If there is any justice, co-national champions and a long off-season of grumbling about the failed alliance. It's a shame that such great games must be marred by college football's inability to develop a true national championship.

—Dave Adler

